



CITY OF LODI COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Approve Specifications and Authorize Advertisement for Bids for Removal of 41 Modesto Ash Trees

MEETING DATE: October 5, 2011

PREPARED BY: Public Works Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve specifications and authorize advertisement for bids for removal of 41 Modesto Ash trees.

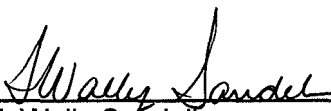
BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Trees are a benefit to the urban environment. Healthy trees reduce air and noise pollution, provide energy-saving shade and cooling, furnish habitat for wildlife, and provide an important aesthetic value to the landscape. As a result, the City removes trees only when it is in the interest of the public's safety or expense. In 2002, the City hired a company to inventory and evaluate Lodi's urban forest. One of the company's recommendations was to eliminate Modesto Ash trees from our inventory because they are prone to 1) mistletoe; 2) a condition known as "included" bark, which leads to major limb splits; and 3) excessive pruning requirements that over time results in disfigured trees.

This project includes the removal of 41 Modesto Ash trees from various streets within the City of Lodi. The City plans to plant more appropriate trees from the City's list of acceptable trees in spring 2012.

The plans and specifications are on file in the Public Works Department. The project estimate is \$30,000. The planned bid opening date is October 26, 2011.

FISCAL IMPACT: The trees are in poor condition and are a liability to the City.

FUNDING AVAILABLE: This project will utilize the Street Fund (3215036).


F. Wally Sandelin
Public Works Director

Prepared by Kathryn E. Garcia, Compliance Engineer
FWS/KMG/pmf
cc: Deputy Public Works Director - Utilities

APPROVED: 
Konrad Bartlam, City Manager